

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 154**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 15, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Beach, Beck, Greenstein, Ruiz, Whelan, Thompson and Turner

SYNOPSIS

Condemns all forms of anti-Semitism and rejects attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/30/2015)

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** condemning all forms of anti-
2 Semitism and rejecting attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred or
3 violent attacks as acceptable expressions of disapproval over
4 political events in the Middle East or elsewhere.

5
6 **WHEREAS**, There is clear evidence of increasing incidents and
7 expressions of anti-Semitism throughout the world; and

8 **WHEREAS**, In April 2014, the United States Department of State
9 released the International Religious Freedom Report and noted,
10 “Throughout Europe, the historical stain of anti-Semitism continued
11 to be a fact of life, leading many individuals who are Jewish to
12 conceal their religious identity;” and

13 **WHEREAS**, Anti-Semitic acts committed and recorded in 2014 around
14 the world, including countries in the Middle East, Latin America,
15 Europe, and North America, include incidents of murder at Jewish
16 sites, violent attacks and death threats against Jews, as well as gun
17 violence, arson, graffiti, anti-Semitic cartoons, and other property
18 desecration at Jewish cemeteries, places of worship, and communal
19 activity; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Anti-Semitic imagery and comparisons of Jews and Israel
21 to Nazis have been on display at demonstrations against Israel’s
22 actions in Gaza, throughout the United States, Europe, the Middle
23 East and Latin America; and

24 **WHEREAS**, The United States Government has consistently supported
25 efforts to address the rise in anti-Semitism through its bilateral
26 relationships and through engagement in international
27 organizations; and

28 **WHEREAS**, The United States Congress has played an essential role in
29 illustrating and counteracting the resurgence of anti-Semitism
30 worldwide; and

31 **WHEREAS**, A May 2014 survey by the Anti-Defamation League, “The
32 ADL Global 100: An Index of Anti-Semitism,” which surveyed
33 people in over 100 countries about their attitudes toward Jews,
34 found that a majority of people surveyed overall have either not
35 heard of the Holocaust or do not believe it happened as has been
36 documented by factual accounts and recorded by history; and

37 **WHEREAS**, The New Jersey Legislature decries and condemns the
38 comparison of Israel to Nazis as an insult to the memory of those
39 who perished in the Holocaust and an affront to those who survived
40 and their children and grandchildren, the righteous gentiles who
41 saved Jewish lives at peril to their own lives, and to those who
42 bravely fought to defeat the Nazis; now, therefore,

43
44 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the*
45 *General Assembly concurring):*

46
47 1. The New Jersey Legislature unequivocally condemns all
48 forms of anti-Semitism and rejects attempts to justify anti-Jewish

1 hatred or violent attacks as an acceptable expression of disapproval
2 or frustration over political events in the Middle East or elsewhere.

3
4 2. The New Jersey Legislature applauds the United States and
5 those foreign leaders who have condemned anti-Semitic acts and
6 calls on those who have yet to take firm action against anti-
7 Semitism in their countries to do so.

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9 3. The New Jersey Legislature supports expanded Holocaust
10 education programs that increase awareness, counter prejudice, and
11 enhance efforts to teach the universal lessons of the Holocaust,
12 genocide, intolerance and discrimination.

13
14 4. The New Jersey Legislature calls upon the citizens of New
15 Jersey and the State's government entities to continue to be vigilant
16 about efforts to prevent and report acts of anti-Semitism, hate
17 crimes and other violations of human rights and religious freedom.

18
19 5. Copies of the resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
20 shall be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate or the Clerk of
21 the General Assembly to the President of the United States, the
22 United States Secretary of State, the Governor, and to each member
23 of Congress elected from this State.

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26 STATEMENT

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28 This senate concurrent resolution condemns anti-Semitism and
29 rejects attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred or violent attacks as
30 acceptable expressions of disapproval over political events in the
31 Middle East or elsewhere.

32 Anti-Semitic acts committed and recorded in 2014 around the
33 world include incidents of murder at Jewish sites, violent attacks
34 and death threats against Jews, as well as gun violence, arson,
35 graffiti, anti-Semitic cartoons, and other property desecration at
36 Jewish cemeteries, places of worship, and communal activity. Anti-
37 Semitic imagery and comparisons of Jews and Israel to Nazis have
38 been on display at demonstrations against Israel's actions in Gaza,
39 throughout the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Latin
40 America. The New Jersey Legislature decries the comparison of
41 Israel to Nazis as an insult to the memory of those who perished in
42 the Holocaust and an affront to those who survived, the gentiles
43 who saved Jewish lives at peril to their own lives, and to those who
44 bravely fought to defeat the Nazis.